

**ISSUE/PROGRAM REPORTS**

**FOR FIRST QUARTER 2000**

**F.C.C. 73.3256 (A) (9)**

**SUBMITTED BY: KTRK-TELEVISION, INC  
HOUSTON, TX**

**APRIL 10, 2000**

## **INTRODUCTION**

From January 1 through March 31, 2000, KTRK-TV broadcast three half-hour weekly local public affairs programs:

### **ABC/13 COMMUNITY CLOSE UP (SATURDAYS 12 NOON-1:00 PM)**

**The umbrella title of a series of programs geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of our community at large. The ISSUE FORUMS; VISIONS; COUNTY LINE, VIVA HOUSTON and CROSSROADS programs rotate throughout the year.**

#### **ISSUE FORUMS (Rotates throughout the year)**

**(12:00 NOON)**

Program geared toward issues and political concerns of the community.

#### **COUNTY LINE (Rotates throughout the year)**

**(12:00 NOON)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the various counties in our community.

#### **VISIONS (Rotates throughout the year)**

**(12:00 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the Asian-American community.

#### **VIVA HOUSTON (Rotates throughout the year)**

**(12:30 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the Hispanic community.

#### **CROSSROADS (Rotates throughout the year)**

**12:30 PM)**

Program geared toward the needs, interests and concerns of the African-American community.

And broadcast a one-hour long local morning program:

#### **DEBRA DUNCAN**

**(MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9:00 AM)**

Program geared toward the general public dealing with issues & entertainment.

(more)

## FCC REPORT

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The station also broadcast several local programs dealing with community issues, and more than 2,000 public service announcements. In addition to the programs, news reports and public service announcements described in this report, the station broadcast all programs provided by the ABC Television Network. The network's report entitled, "ABC-TV, Network First Quarter 2000 Program Information" is filed separately.

KTRK-TV's programs, news reports and public service announcements provided significant treatment of the following issues that were important to the community in the first quarter of 2000.

- 1) Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo
- 2) Internet Stalking & Scam Artists
- 3) Child Abuse
- 4) African American History
- 5) Texas Primary 2000
- 6) Blood Drive
- 7) Burn Victims

## **KTRK-TV NEWS PROGRAMS**

### **EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 5:00 AM and 6 AM**

Tom Koch, Cheryl Keck, Doug Brown and Don Nelson anchor this hour-half morning newscast from 5:00-7:00 a.m., Monday through Friday. This program includes the latest overnight news, weather, sports, and traffic reports. Also, includes a number of weekly series including "Common Sense", a series on financial reports about economic trends and investment opportunities; as well as "The People's Lawyer", a series of reports on legal issues.

### **EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 11:30 AM**

Tom Koch and Melanie Lawson anchor this half-hour morning newscast from 11:30-12:00 noon, Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

### **EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 5 PM**

Art Rascon and Melanie Lawson anchor this half-hour evening newscast from 5:00-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports. Three days a week medical reporter Christi Meyers anchors a "Healthcheck" segment of approximately 2 minutes on the latest medical news and advances.

### **EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 6 PM**

Dave Ward, Shara Fryer, Ed Brandon and Bob Allen anchor this hour evening newscast from 6:00-7:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports. Anchor Marvin Zindler brings daily reports on consumer issues that affect the community.

### **EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 10 PM**

Dave Ward, Shara Fryer, Ed Brandon and Bob Allen anchor this half-hour evening newscast from 10:00-10:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

### **WEEKEND EVENING NEWSCASTS**

Bob Boudreaux, Minvera Perez, Gene Norman and Tim Melton anchor 30-minute newscasts at 5:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Saturdays and 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Sundays. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

### **WEEKEND MORNING NEWSCASTS**

Mark Garay, Theresa Rodriguez, Gene Norman and Tim Melton anchor 90-minute newscasts at 6-9 a.m. on Sundays. This program includes the latest news, weather, and sports.

(more)

### **13 EYEWITNESS NEWS - SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

#### **EYEWITNESS NEWS EXTRA**

**(2/14/00-2/18/00, 6:00-7:00 PM; LOCAL, 7:00 minutes)**

Traffic is notorious in Houston and being stuck in rush hour traffic can take its' toll on commuters. Our Eyewitness News reporters Chris Adams and Patrick Nolan were put to the ultimate challenge, to find the faster way home by taking several commuter routes along the city streets and highways. . During this week-long test, they traveled to Katy, Kingwood, Sugarland and other locations around the city and each day, the reporters phoned in his progress to our news anchors in the studio.

#### **EYEWITNESS NEWS EXTRA**

**(2/15/00, 10:00-10:30 PM; LOCAL, 3:00 minutes)**

There are more than five thousand kids walking the streets of Houston; their world is filled with homelessness, drugs and prostitution. Eyewitness News reporter Art Rascon's special report "Street Kids: A Lost Generation" takes a look at the world of kids living on the streets.

#### **VISIT TO ISRAEL**

**(3/18/00, 6:30-7:00 PM; LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Eyewitness News anchor Art Rascon travels to Israel with several Houstonians who are fascinated by the history of the Holy Land.

**13 EYEWITNESS NEWS & ABC NEWS - SPECIAL REPORTS**

January 3	1007:30-1058:26 am	50:56	Inaugural ceremonies for Mayor Lee Brown and city council members
January 24	850:52 pm 912:32 pm	1:30 1:30	ABC special report - Iowa Caucus
January 31	658:32 pm 720:43 pm	1:00 2:00	ABC news special report - plane crash
February 2	700:00 pm 817:30 pm	3:25 3:25	ABC news special report – New Hampshire Primary
February 4	1005:20 am 119:00 am 143:15 pm	2:00 2:00 2:00	Aired special report – car accident Aired special report – truck accident Aired special report – car accident
February 11	1012:00-1035:15 am	23:15	Aired special report – Prairie View students Memorial Service who died in a van accident on the way to a track meet
February 14	854:15 am 1014:45 am	5:55 5:00	Aired special report - two Houston Fire Department Officers were killed fighting a fire at a McDonald's restaurant. The fire was started by teenagers trying to cover up a robbery
February 18	958:04-1149:15 am	2 hrs	Live coverage of the memorial service for two Houston Fire Department Officers who were killed in a fire
February 22	733:03 pm	1:34	ABC news special report – Michigan Primary
March 3	106:36 pm 130:15-1:51:20 pm 120:35 pm	2:14 21:05 3:10	Aired special report – building wall collapse
March 14	7:00:00 pm	:30	Aired special report – local election update
March 27	131:15-5:00 pm 5:35:45 pm	5 hrs 4:30	Aired special report – Phillips Petroleum Plant explosion in Pasadena, TX

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**ISSUE: HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO**

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo provides family entertainment, supports educational endeavors and rewards scholarships to students. This annual event also provides millions of dollars to the Houston economy. KTRK-TV provided extensive coverage of local activities.

**HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO PARADE**  
**(2/12/00, 10:44 AM-12:00 PM; LOCAL, 1 hour 15 minutes)**  
**(Repeated: 2/13/00, 11:00-1:00 PM)**

LIVE coverage of the annual Livestock Show and Rodeo parade in downtown Houston.

**CHANNEL 13 PRESENTS: "AUTHENTIC TEXAS TASTE"**  
**(2/12/00, 5:00-5:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

LIVE broadcast from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo barbecue cookoff.

**HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO STEER AUCTION**  
**(3/4/00, 12:00-12:30 PM; LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

LIVE coverage of the annual HLS&R steer auction. Funds raised from this event are used for scholarship programs.

**HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW AND RODEO ART AUCTION**  
**(3/5/00, 12:00-12:30 PM; LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

This program featured paintings and art by several aspiring new artists.

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### **ISSUE: INTERNET STALKING AND SCAM ARTISTS**

With a New Year, there are new opportunities for con artists to take your money and commit crimes. From internet schemes, to cyberstalking and phony census takers, KTRK-TV provided information about the new and improved scams that have been sweeping the city to help consumers make wise choices and decisions before giving out any personal information.

#### **DEBRA DUNCAN (2/29/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

We live in a world where there is instant access to information and criminals can find out things about people and places that were once completely out of reach. With the new technology available, a new crime is on the horizon called cyberspace stalking. People can buy your identity and do whatever they want with it. Today's guests share their stories about how they became victims of this new scam.

#### **DEBRA DUNCAN (3/31/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

With the recent announcements about the importance of filing the Census 2000 forms, a new group of con artists have cropped up posing as census takers and going door to door getting personal information from unsuspecting consumers. This program focused on how to spot an official government employee, and to be aware of the information you are giving to strangers. Guest included an audience of individuals who have been victims of scams, Eyewitness News consumer reporter Marvin Zindler and scam busters Benjamin Dover and Stephen Dean.



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8-8-8

**ISSUE: CHILD ABUSE**

According to the state of Texas statistics, in 1998, one hundred and seventy six children died because of parental abuse or neglect. That's one child ever other day. It is the highest in the nation and in 36% of those deaths, Children's Protective Service agencies reported to have had some kind of involvement in those homes before the deaths. Despite studies by local and state officials and more funding, child advocacy organizations say cases of neglect and abuse continue. The organizations blame state and local C-P-S agencies for not doing enough to protect the welfare of children.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (1/24/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

It is a issue people don't want to talk about because it makes you uncomfortable, but the facts show that one in three girls and one in five boys will be sexually abused by the time they are 18. And in most of these cases the children are abused by someone they know and trust. The program today focused on the issue of sexual abuse and the impact it can have on children for the rest of their lives. Guest included members of several organizations who assisted families with this problem.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS**

**(2/5/00, 2/8/00 & 2/19/00; 6:00 PM & 10: 00 PM, LOCAL, 10 minutes)**

Eyewitness News reporter Don Kobos takes a look at the increase of child abuse cases in Harris County and examines the Children's Protective Service agency and the policy they have that keeps sending children back into abusive homes. He also talks to several representatives from child advocacy organizations about this issue.

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**ISSUE: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY**

Houston has grown into a very diverse community. Through various cultural celebrations held in the city, we learn about each other's culture and traditions. Particularly, during the celebration of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King.

**CROSSROADS (1/15/00, 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 6 minutes)**

On January 17 numerous observances took place across the United States as well as in Houston in recognition of the accomplishments of slain civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King. Here in Houston there were two downtown parades and an annual breakfast at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Phil Thorne, President of the North Houston Frontiers Club and Charles Stamps Chairman and CEO of the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade Foundation shared details about the events with our viewers.

**CROSSROADS (1/15/00, 12:30-1:00 PM, LOCAL, 6 minutes)**

Among the numerous events scheduled in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a special exhibit at the Houston Children's Museum. Amy Gross with the Children's Museum as well as Tamarin and Vincent King joined us to discuss the exhibit which displayed 2000 letters written by Houston area youngster about Dr. King's impact on their lives and their hopes and dreams for the future.

**DEBRA DUNCAN (1/17/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. would have been 71 years old today. Today's program focused on Dr. King's dream of equality and asks the question of whether or not we have been able to achieve that dream.

**CROSSROADS (2/19/00, 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

In wake of the new Millenium, a half-hour discussion centered on significant events that have happened over the decades affecting African Americans and the how these events have impacted us, hurt us or benefited us. Guests included Ada Edwards, Community Activist and Host of KBXX Radio's "Dialogue with Ada Edwards", Michael Harris, News Director and host of "Person to Person" KCOH Radio and Dr. Sanders Anderson, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Fredrick Douglas Honors Program at Texas Southern University. Issues discussed were: the Civil Rights Movement/Affirmative Action Legislation, Reparations for African Americans, Black Leadership- Past and Present and Hate Crime Legislation.

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**ISSUE: TEXAS PRIMARY**

It's not considered the official "Super Tuesday" as its' been labeled by the news media, but to residents and political hopefuls in Texas, March 14, 2000 is considered Texas' "Super Tuesday". Among some of the major primary elections in the State of Texas were for U.S President, Congress and local judgeships. KTRK-TV broadcast programs to inform the public about issues surrounding the upcoming races and candidates.

**ABC COMMUNITY CLOSE UP: TEXAS PRIMARY 2000**

**(3/13/00, 12:00-12:30 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Hosted by news reporter Don Kobos, this special edition of Community Close Up focused on election issues surrounding the "Super Tuesday" Democratic and Republican Primaries, featuring a talk with guests Sue Schechter, Chair of the Harris County Democratic Party and Gloria Gonzales Roemer, representing the Republican Party. The discussion focussed on two key races for party nominations -- the races for Harris County District Attorney and U.S. Senator. The discussion also touched on Harris County District Court's largely uncontested judicial positions, the Republican Party's stronghold of District Court judgeships, the virtual absence of Democratic contenders in judgeship races, and the dynamics of the Latino vote in the Primaries.

**TEXAS PRIMARY 2000 (3/14/00, LIVE CUT INS, 8:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 30 minutes)**

Live coverage regarding national and state elections.

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11-11-11

**ISSUE: BLOOD SHORTAGE**

The spring months create additional problems for hospitals due to a shortage of blood supply. KTRK-TV, St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center joined forces for the two day "ABC/13 Spring Blood Drive". Viewers were encouraged to stop by Sharpstown Mall and several other designated locations to donate blood to help increase the supply during this critical time of the year. This year, viewers donated over 1000 units of blood.

**EYEWITNESS NEWS (3/30/00, 5:00-5:30 PM, 2 minutes)**

Eyewitness News reporter Christi Myers filed the story of a young mother who needed over 1400 units of blood, because of a complications following the birth of her child. She talked about the importance of blood donations and encouraged viewers to participate in the upcoming spring blood drive.

**ABC/13 SPRING BLOOD DRIVE**

**(3/31/00, 5:00 AM; 5:30 AM; 6 AM NEWSCASTS; LIVE CUT-INS; LIVE AT FIVE;  
EYEWITNESS NEWS AT 6 PM AND 10 PM, LOCAL, 15 minutes)**

Live "cut-ins" of the blood drive held at Sharpstown mall as viewers donated blood from 7 AM until 9 PM.

Ran a series of public service and news announcements promoting the ABC/13 Spring Blood Drive.

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12-12-12

**ISSUE: BURN VICTIMS**

Fire is one of the most destructive forces of nature. As a result of a major fire at the Phillips 66-petroleum plant on March 27 in Pasadena, KTRK-TV broadcast a program dealing with the issue of how fires can have a devastating affect on the lives of burn victims and their families. It is estimated that children under the age of five are among those most at risk of dying in a fire, because through the eyes of a child, a fire can appear as a pretty, bright orange glow and not as d

**DEBRA DUNCAN (3/30/00, 9:00-10:00 PM, LOCAL, 60 minutes)**

Today's program focused on children who have been victims of fires and how they have been able to survive severe burns and the intense physical and emotional pain of being burned. Also, addressed the issue of how easy a fire can happen and the importance of parents educating their children about fire safety.